

# Engineering Ethics

# What are “ethics”?

- Your definition:
  - Moral principles that govern a person's or group's behavior.



# What is “Engineering Ethics”?

According to the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE)

“Engineering ethics is

1. The study of **moral issues** and **decisions** confronting individuals and organizations involved in **engineering** and
2. The study of related questions about **moral conduct, character, ideals** and **relationships** of peoples and organizations involved in **technological development**”

(Martin and Schinzinger, *Ethics in Engineering*)

# NSPE Code of Ethics

“Engineers, in the fulfillment of their professional duties, shall...”

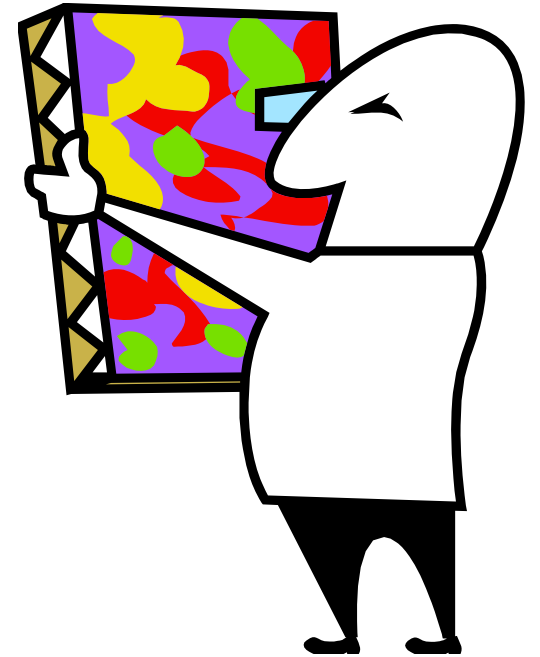
- NSPE Code of Ethics is broken into:
  - Canons (overarching themes)
  - Rules of Practice (specific to the overarching themes)
  - Professional Obligations (specific ways to “behave” in engineering practices)

# Canon 1

“Hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public.”

## Canon 2

- Perform services only in areas of their competence.



## Canon 3

- Issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner.

**True**



**False**



## Canon 4

- Act for each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees.



# Canon 5

- Avoid deceptive acts



# Canon 6

- Conduct themselves honorably, responsibly, ethically, and lawfully so as to enhance the honor, reputation, and usefulness of the profession.

# Important Sources Used in this Presentation

- National Society of Professional Engineers ([www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org))